

(2) REGIONAL VARIATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE;

(3) TYPICAL HOUSING COSTS AND EXPENSES;

(4) RELEVANT STANDARDS AND DEFINITIONS ESTABLISHED FOR STATE AND FEDERAL HOUSING PROGRAMS;

(5) HOUSING NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS AND THE EXPECTED DURATION OF THE HOUSING NEEDS; AND

(6) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS STATEWIDE.

(E) THE SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH DIFFERENT CRITERIA FOR DIFFERENT PROGRAMS.

~~4-1405.~~ 4-1406.

THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAMS.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that;

(1) the existing Rental Allowance Program as administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development under the statute repealed ~~by~~ under Section 1 of this Act continue ~~and become the rental assistance program for households that are homeless or at risk of homelessness~~ as the Rental Allowance Program created under § 4-1403 of the Housing and Community Development Article, as enacted ~~by~~ under Section 2 of this Act; and ~~that~~

(2) the Department continue to use the existing network of Rental Allowance Program ~~providers for rental assistance for homeless populations provided these entities are interested in continuing to manage the program~~ administrators.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2008.